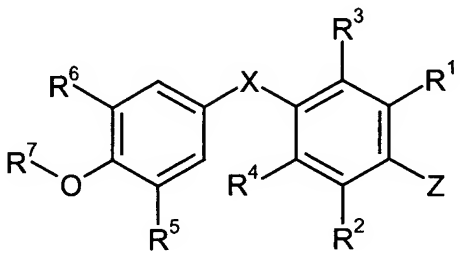
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ A compound of the ~~general~~ formula (I)



(I),

in which

X represents O, S, SO, SO_2, CH_2, CHF, CF_2 or represents NR^8 in which R^8 represents hydrogen or $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl,

R^1 and R^2 are identical or different and represent hydrogen or $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl,

R^3 and R^4 are identical or different and represent hydrogen, halogen, cyano, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, CF_3, CHF_2, CH_2F, vinyl or $(C_3$-$C_7)$-cycloalkyl, where at least one of the two substituents is not hydrogen,

R^5 represents hydrogen, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl or halogen,

R^6 represents a group of the formula -S-R^9, -$S(O)_n$-R^{10} [[,]] or -NR^{11}-C(O)-R^{12} [[, -]] ~~CH_2-R^{13} or M-R^{14}~~, in which

R^9 represents ~~$(C_1$-$C_{10})$-alkyl, $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenyl,~~ phenyl or ~~$(C_6$-$C_{10})$-aryl,~~ benzyl ~~$(C_6$-$C_{10})$-arylmethyl or represents a saturated, partially unsaturated or aromatic 5- to 10-membered heterocycle having up to four identical or different heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S~~, where the abovementioned radicals are optionally substituted by one, two or three identical or different substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, oxo, cyano, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkoxy, carboxyl and $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxycarbonyl,

n represents the number 1 or 2,

R^{10} represents ~~OR^{15}, $NR^{16}R^{17}$, $(C_1$-$C_{10})$-alkyl, $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl, $(C_2$-$C_6)$-alkenyl,~~ phenyl or ~~$(C_6$-$C_{10})$-aryl,~~ benzyl ~~$(C_6$-$C_{10})$-arylmethyl or represents a saturated, partially unsaturated or aromatic 5- to 10-membered heterocycle having up to four identical or different heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S~~, where the abovementioned radicals are optionally substituted by one, two or three identical or different substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, oxo, cyano, nitro, amino, $NR^{18}R^{19}$, trifluoromethyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, optionally R^{20}-substituted $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkoxy, $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl, $(C_6$-$C_{10})$-aryl, which for its part is optionally substituted by halogen, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano, -O-C(O)-R^{21}, -C(O)-OR^{22}, -C(O)-$NR^{23}R^{24}$, -SO_2-$NR^{25}R^{26}$, -NH-C(O)-R^{27} and -NH-C(O)-OR^{28}, where

~~R^{15}~~ [[,]] R^{18}, R^{19}, R^{20}, R^{21}, R^{22}, R^{23}, R^{24}, R^{25}, R^{26}, R^{27} and R^{28} are identical or different and each represents hydrogen, phenyl, benzyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl which for their part are optionally mono- or polysubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino,

carboxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonylamino, (C_1-C_5)-alkanoyloxy, ~~a heterocycle~~ or by phenyl which for its part is optionally substituted by halogen or hydroxyl,

~~and~~

~~R^{16} and R^{17} are identical or different and independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight chain or branched (C_1-C_6)-alkyl which may be mono- or polysubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of mono-(C_1-C_6)-alkylamino, di-(C_1-C_6)-alkylamino, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_6)-alkoxycarbonyl, carboxyl, pyridyl or (C_6-C_{10})-aryl, where the latter for its part is optionally substituted by halogen, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_1-C_6)-alkoxy,~~

~~represent (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl or represent a 5- to 7-membered heterocycle which contains one or two nitrogen atoms, where cycloalkyl and heterocycle are optionally substituted by (C_1-C_4)-alkyl,~~

~~or~~

~~R^{16} and R^{17} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- to 7-membered saturated, optionally benzo-fused heterocycle which may contain up to two further heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S and which may be substituted by amino, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonylamino or phenyl,~~

R^{11} represents hydrogen or benzyl, ~~straight-chain or branched $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl which may be mono- or polysubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of mono-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylamino, di-$(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkylamino, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkoxycarbonyl, carboxyl, pyridyl and $(C_6$-$C_{10})$-aryl,~~ where the latter for its part is optionally substituted by halogen, trifluoromethyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl or $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkoxy, ~~represents $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl or represents a 5- to 7-membered heterocycle which contains one or two nitrogen atoms, where cycloalkyl and heterocycle are optionally substituted by $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl,~~

R^{12} represents benzyl ~~straight-chain or branched $(C_1$-$C_{15})$-alkyl which may be substituted by $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy, phenyl, phenoxy or benzyloxy, where the aromatic radicals mentioned for their part~~ which may ~~each~~ be substituted up to three times by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of halogen, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl and $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy, or

~~represents $(C_3$-$C_8)$-cycloalkyl which may be substituted by $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy or phenyl,~~

represents phenyl ~~$(C_6$-$C_{10})$-aryl~~ which may be substituted up to three times by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_6)$-alkoxy, halogen, cyano, amino, trifluoromethyl and phenyl,

~~or~~

represents a 5- or 6-membered saturated or aromatic, optionally benzo-fused heterocycle having up to two heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S,

or

represents a group of the formula $-OR^{29}$ or $-NR^{30}R^{31}$,

in which

R^{29} represents straight-chain or branched (C_1-C_6)-alkyl,

and

R^{30} and R^{31} are identical or different and independently of one another

represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched (C_1-C_{12})-alkyl which may be substituted by aminocarbonyl, a group of the formula $-NR^{32}R^{33}$, 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl which contains up to 3 heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of N, O and S, or by phenyl, where phenyl is optionally substituted up to two times by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of halogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, trifluoromethyl and (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy,

represent (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl which may be substituted by (C_1-C_4)-alkyl,

represent (C_6-C_{10})-aryl which may be substituted up to three times by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of halogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, amino, phenyl and phenoxy,

or

represent a 5- to 7-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocycle which contains one or two nitrogen atoms and is optionally substituted by (C_1-C_4)-alkyl or an oxo group,

where

R^{32} and R^{33} are identical or different and independently of one another represent hydrogen, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, phenyl or (C_6-C_{10})-arylsulphonyl,

or

together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 3- to 7-membered saturated heterocycle which optionally contains up to two further heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S,

or

R^{30} and R^{31} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 4- to 7-membered saturated heterocycle which may contain up to two further heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O

and S and which may be substituted by amino, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, aminocarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonylamino, phenyl or pyridyl,

R^{13} represents a saturated, partially unsaturated or aromatic 5- to 10-membered heterocycle having up to three identical or different heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S, which is optionally substituted by one, two or three identical or different substituents selected from the group consisting of (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, hydroxyl, oxo, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, halogen, cyano, carboxyl and (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, with the proviso that X in this case does not represent SO or SO_2,

or

R^{13} represents the group $-NR^{34}R^{35}$ in which

R^{34} and R^{35} are identical or different and represent hydrogen, (C_1-C_8)-alkyl which may be substituted by (C_6-C_{10})-aryl, represent (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl, (C_6-C_{10})-aryl or represent 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl having up to three identical or different heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S where aryl and heteroaryl for their part are in each case optionally mono- or disubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of hydroxyl, amino, cyano, halogen, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, carboxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl and mono- and di-(C_1-C_4)-alkylaminocarbonyl,

M represents C=O, CH(OH), CHF or CF_2,

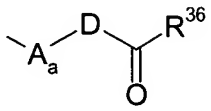
~~and~~

~~R^{14} has the meaning of R^{10} given above,~~

R^7 represents hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl or (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl,

and

Z represents a group of the formula



,

in which

A represents O or S,

a represents the number 0 or 1,

D represents a straight-chain (C_1-C_4)-alkylene group which may be mono- or polysubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of (C_1-C_3)-alkyl, hydroxyl and fluorine,

and

R^{36} represents OR^{37} or $NR^{38}R^{39}$, in which

R^{37}, R^{38} and R^{39} are identical or different and each represents hydrogen, phenyl, benzyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_3-C_8)-cycloalkyl which for their part are optionally mono- or polysubstituted by identical or

different substituents from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, carboxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonylamino, (C_1-C_5)-alkanoyloxy, ~~a heterocycle~~ or by phenyl which for its part is optionally substituted by halogen or hydroxyl,

~~and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, hydrates and hydrates of the salts~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, hydrate, or hydrate of a salt thereof.

2. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ A compound of the ~~general~~ formula (I) according to Claim 1

in which

X represents O, S, CH_2 or CF_2,

R^1 and R^2 are identical or different and represent hydrogen or methyl,

R^3 and R^4 are identical or different and represent hydrogen, halogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, CF_3, CHF_2, CH_2F, vinyl or (C_3-C_5)-cycloalkyl, where at least one of the two substituents is not hydrogen,

R^5 represents hydrogen, (C_1-C_3)-alkyl, fluorine, chlorine or bromine,

R^6 represents a group of the formula $-S(O)_2-R^{10}$ [[,]] or $-NR^{11}-C(O)-R^{12}$, ~~$-CH_2-R^{13}$ or $-M-R^{14}$~~ [[,]] in which

R^{10} represents ~~$NR^{16}R^{17}$, (C_1-C_8)-alkyl, (C_5-C_7)-cycloalkyl,~~ phenyl [[,]] or benzyl ~~or represents a saturated, partially unsaturated or aromatic 5- to 10-~~

~~membered heterocycle having up to three identical or different heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S~~, where the abovementioned radicals are optionally substituted by one, two or three identical or different substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, oxo, cyano, nitro, amino, dimethylamino, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_3-C_6)-cycloalkyl, or phenyl, which for its parts is optionally substituted by halogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, trifluoromethyl, nitro or cyano, $-C(O)-OR^{22}$, $-C(O)-NR^{23}R^{24}$, $-SO_2-NR^{25}R^{26}$, $-NH-C(O)-R^{27}$ and $-NH-C(O)-OR^{28}$, where

R^{22}, R^{23}, R^{24}, R^{25}, R^{26}, R^{27} and R^{28} are identical or different and each represents hydrogen, phenyl, benzyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl or (C_5-C_7)-cycloalkyl which for their part are optionally mono- or polysubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, carboxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonylamino or (C_1-C_5)-alkanoyloxy,

~~and~~

~~R^{16} and R^{17} are identical or different and independently of one another represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched (C_1-C_6)-alkyl which may be mono- or polysubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, carboxyl, pyridyl or phenyl, where the latter for its part is optionally substituted by halogen, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl or (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy,~~

~~represent $(C_5$-$C_7)$-cycloalkyl or represent a 5- to 7-membered heterocycle which contains one or two nitrogen atoms, where cycloalkyl and heterocycle are optionally substituted by $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl,~~

~~or~~

~~R^{16} and R^{17} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- to 7-membered saturated heterocycle which may contain up to two further heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S and which may be substituted by amino, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxycarbonyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxycarbonylamino or phenyl,~~

R^{11} represents hydrogen or ~~, straight-chain or branched $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl,~~ benzyl, ~~$(C_3$-$C_7)$-cycloalkyl or represents a 5- to 7-membered heterocycle which contains one or two nitrogen atoms, where cycloalkyl and heterocycle are optionally substituted by $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl,~~

R^{12} represents benzyl ~~straight-chain or branched $(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl which may be substituted by $(C_3$-$C_7)$-cycloalkyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy, phenyl, phenoxy or benzyloxy, where the aromatic radicals mentioned for their part~~ which may ~~each~~ be substituted up to three times by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of halogen, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl and $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy,

or

represents phenyl which may be substituted up to three times by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy, halogen, cyano, amino and trifluoromethyl,

~~or~~

~~represents a group of the formula $-OR^{29}$ or $-NR^{30}R^{31}$,~~
~~in which~~

~~R^{29} represents straight-chain or branched $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl,~~

~~and~~

~~R^{30} and R^{31} are identical or different and independently of one another~~

~~represent hydrogen, straight-chain or branched $(C_1$-$C_8)$-alkyl which may be substituted by phenyl, which for its part is optionally substituted up to two times by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of halogen, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl, trifluoromethyl and $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy,~~

~~represent $(C_3$-$C_7)$-cycloalkyl which may be substituted by $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl,~~

~~or~~

~~represent phenyl which may be substituted up to three times by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of~~

halogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy and amino,

or

R^{30} and R^{31} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- to 7-membered saturated heterocycle which may contain up to two further heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S and which may be substituted by amino, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkanoyl, aminocarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonylamino or phenyl,

R^{13} represents a saturated, partially unsaturated or aromatic 5- or 6-membered heterocycle having up to three identical or different heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S, which is optionally substituted by one, two or three identical or different substituents selected from the group consisting of (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, hydroxyl, oxo, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, halogen, cyano, carboxyl and (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl,

or

represents the group $NR^{34}R^{35}$, in which

R^{34} and R^{35} are identical or different and represent hydrogen, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl, which may be substituted by phenyl, represent (C_5-C_7)-cycloalkyl, phenyl or represent 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl having up to three identical or different heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S, where phenyl and

~~heteroaryl for their part are each optionally mono- or disubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of hydroxyl, amino, cyano, halogen, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxy, carboxyl or $(C_1$-$C_4)$-alkoxycarbonyl,~~

~~M represents C=O, CH(OH) or CF_2,~~

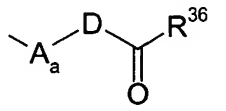
~~and~~

~~R^{14} has the meaning of R^{10} given above,~~

R^7 represents hydrogen, methyl or acetyl,

and

Z represents a group of the formula



,

in which

A represents O or S,

a represents the number 0 or 1,

D represents a straight-chain $(C_1$-$C_3)$-alkylene group which may be mono- or polysubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of methyl, hydroxyl and fluorine,

and

R^{36} represents OR^{37} or $NR^{38}R^{39}$, in which

R^{37} represents hydrogen, phenyl, benzyl, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_3-C_7)-cycloalkyl which for their part are optionally mono- or polysubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, carboxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonylamino, and (C_1-C_5)-alkanoyloxy ~~and a heterocycle~~,

and

R^{38} and R^{39} are identical or different and each represents hydrogen, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_3-C_7)-cycloalkyl, which for their part are optionally mono- or polysubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxyl, amino, carboxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonylamino, (C_1-C_5)-alkanoyloxy, ~~a heterocycle~~ and phenyl which for its part is optionally substituted by halogen or hydroxyl,

~~and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, hydrates and hydrates of the salts~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, hydrate, or hydrate of a salt thereof.

3. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ A compound of the ~~general~~ formula (I) according to Claim 1

in which

X represents O, S or CH_2,

R^1 and R^2 represent hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 are identical or different and represent methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, cyclopropyl, trifluoromethyl, chlorine or bromine,

R^5 represents hydrogen,

R^6 represents a group of the formula $-S(O)_2-R^{10}$ ~~, $-NH-C(O)-R^{12}$, $-CH_2-R^{13}$, $-C(O)-R^{14}$ or $-CH(OH)-R^{40}$~~, in which

R^{10} represents phenyl ~~or represents 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl having up to three identical or different heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S~~, which is ~~radicals are~~ optionally mono- or disubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of fluorine, chlorine, bromine, hydroxyl, cyano, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, carboxyl and (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl,

~~or~~

~~represents the group $-NR^{16}R^{17}$, in which~~

~~R^{16} and R^{17} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered saturated heterocycle which may contain a further heteroatom from the group consisting of N, O and S and which may be substituted by (C_1-C_4)-alkyl,~~

~~R^{12} represents straight-chain or branched (C_1-C_6)-alkyl which is optionally substituted by phenoxy or benzyloxy,~~

R^{13} represents 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl having up to three identical or different heteroatoms from the group consisting of N, O and S, which is optionally substituted by one or two identical or different substituents selected from the group consisting of (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, hydroxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, cyano, carboxyl and (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, or represents the group $-NR^{34}R^{35}$, in which

R^{34} represents (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_3-C_7)-cycloalkyl,

and

R^{35} represents benzyl which is optionally substituted in the phenyl ring by hydroxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, fluorine, chlorine or cyano,

R^{14} represents a group of the formula $-NR^{41}R^{42}$, in which

R^{41} represents hydrogen, (C_1-C_6)-alkyl or (C_3-C_7)-cycloalkyl,

R^{42} represents hydrogen or represents (C_1-C_4)-alkyl which may be substituted by phenyl,

or

R^{41} and R^{42} together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached form a 5- or 6-membered saturated heterocycle which may contain a further heteroatom from the group consisting of N, O and S and which may be substituted by (C_1-C_4)-alkyl,

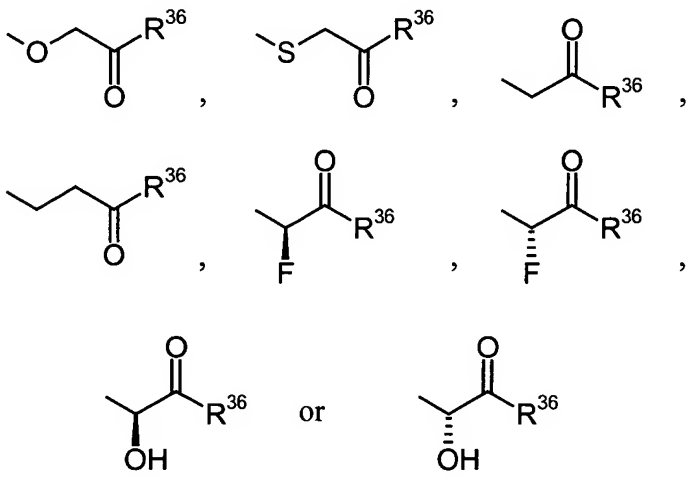
~~and~~

~~R^{40} represents phenyl or naphthyl, which are optionally mono- or disubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of fluorine, chlorine, bromine, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, cyano, trifluoromethyl or (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl,~~

R^7 represents hydrogen,

and

Z represents a group of the formula



in which R^{36} represents hydroxyl or the radical -C(O)-R^{36} has the meanings of R^{36} given above for a group which, in the sense of a prodrug, can be degraded to the carboxylic acid -C(O)-OH or a salt thereof,

~~and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, hydrates and hydrates of the salts~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, hydrate, or hydrate of a salt thereof.

4. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ A compound of the ~~general~~ formula (I) according to Claim 1

in which

X represents CH_2 or ~~, in particular,~~ oxygen,

R^1 and R^2 represent hydrogen,

R^3 and R^4 are identical or different and represent methyl, ethyl, propyl, isopropyl, cyclopropyl, trifluoromethyl, chlorine or bromine,

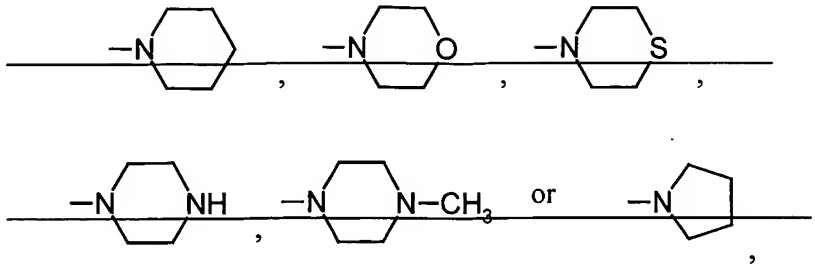
R^5 represents hydrogen,

R^6 represents a group of the formula $-S(O)_2-R^{10}$, ~~$-CH_2-R^{13}$ or $-C(O)-R^{14}$~~, in which

R^{10} represents phenyl, ~~pyridyl, pyrimidinyl or pyridazinyl~~ which is ~~are~~ optionally mono- or disubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of fluorine, chlorine, bromine, hydroxyl, cyano, trifluoromethyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, carboxyl and (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl,

~~or~~

~~represents a group of the formula~~



R^{13} represents pyridyl, pyrimidinyl or pyridazinyl which are optionally substituted by one or two identical or different substituents selected from the group consisting of (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, hydroxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, fluorine, chlorine, bromine, cyano, carboxyl and (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl, or represents the group $-NR^{34}R^{35}$, in which

R^{34} represents (C_1-C_4)-alkyl or (C_5-C_7)-cycloalkyl,

and

R^{35} represents benzyl which is optionally substituted in the phenyl ring by hydroxyl, (C_1-C_4)-alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, fluorine, chlorine or cyano,

and

R^{14} represents a group of the formula $-NR^{41}R^{42}$, in which

R^{41} represents hydrogen, (C_1-C_4)-alkyl or (C_5-C_7)-cycloalkyl,

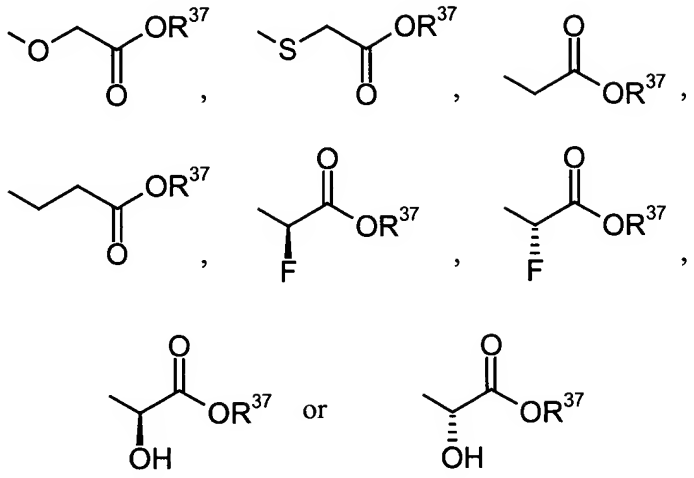
and

R^{42} represents hydrogen or represents (C_1-C_4)-alkyl which may be substituted by phenyl,

R^7 represents hydrogen,

and

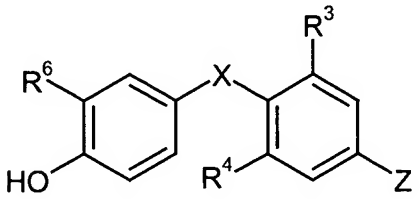
Z represents a group of the formula



in which R^{37} represents hydrogen, $(C_1\text{-}C_4)$-alkyl or $(C_4\text{-}C_6)$-cycloalkyl,

~~and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, solvates, hydrates and hydrates of the salts~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, solvate, hydrate, or hydrate of a salt thereof .

5. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ A compound of the formula (Ia)



(Ia),

in which

X represents CH_2 or O,

R^3 and R^4 are identical or different and represent bromine, trifluoromethyl, ethyl, cyclopropyl ~~and, in particular~~ , methyl or chlorine,

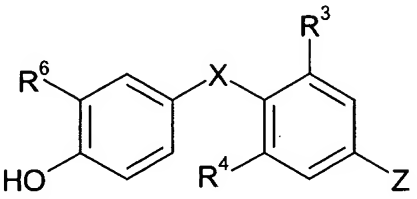
Z represents a group of the formula $-CH_2-C(O)-OH$, $-CH_2-CH_2-C(O)-OH$, $-O-CH_2-C(O)-OH$ or $-S-CH_2-C(O)-OH$,

and

R^6 represents a group of the formula $-S(O)_2-R^{10}$, in which

R^{10} represents phenyl ~~or represents pyridyl~~ which is ~~are~~ optionally mono- or disubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of fluorine, chlorine, cyano, trifluoromethyl, methyl, hydroxyl and methoxy.

6. (Currently amended) ~~Compounds~~ A compound of the formula (Ia)



(Ia),

in which

X represents CH_2 or O,

R^3 and R^4 are identical or different and represent bromine, trifluoromethyl, ethyl, cyclopropyl ~~and, in particular~~, methyl or chlorine,

Z represents a group of the formula $-CH_2-C(O)-OH$, $-CH_2-CH_2-C(O)-OH$, $-O-CH_2-C(O)-OH$, $-O-C[(CH_3)_2]-C(O)-OH$ or $-S-CH_2-C(O)-OH$,

and

R^6 represents a group of the formula $-S(O)_2-R^{10}$, in which

R^{10} represents phenyl ~~or represents pyridyl~~ which is ~~are~~ optionally mono- or disubstituted by identical or different substituents from the group consisting of fluorine, chlorine, cyano, trifluoromethyl, methyl, hydroxyl and methoxy.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of the ~~general~~ formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6.

9. (Currently amended) A process for preparing pharmaceutical composition, characterized in that at least one compound of the ~~general~~ formula (I) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6 is converted, using excipients or carriers, into a suitable administration form.

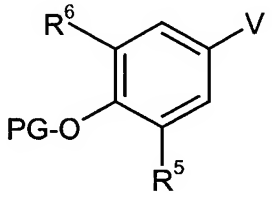
10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A method of ~~preventing or~~ treating arteriosclerosis, obesity or hypercholesterolaemia comprising administering to a host in need thereof an effective amount of a composition ~~compound~~ of claim 8.

12. (Currently amended) A method of ~~preventing or~~ treating depression, goiter or cancer of the thyroid gland ~~disease forms which can be treated with natural thyroid hormone~~ comprising administering to a host in need thereof an effective amount of a composition ~~compound~~ of claim 8.

13. (Currently amended) A method for the treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of arteriosclerosis, hypercholesterolaemia, dyslipidaemia, obesity, cardiac insufficiency, pulmonary emphysema, pain, migraine, Alzheimer's disease, osteoporosis, cardiac arrhythmias, hypothyroidism, skin disorders or diabetes ~~disorders~~ comprising administering to a host in need thereof an effective amount of a compound as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6.

14. (Currently amended) ~~Process~~ A process for preparing compounds of the formula (I) as defined in Claim 1, characterized in that a reactive phenol ~~derivatives~~ derivative of the ~~general~~ formula (II)



(II)

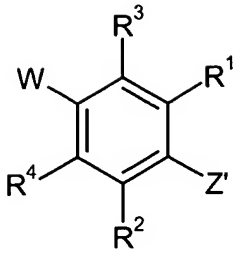
in which

R^5 and R^6 are as defined in Claim 1 and

PG represents a protective group and

V represents a binding or leaving group,

~~are~~ is reacted, if appropriate with isolation of the intermediates, or directly, with a reactive phenyl ~~derivatives~~ derivative of the ~~general~~ formula (III)



(III)

in which

R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 are as defined in Claim 1 and

W represents a binding or leaving group and

Z' has the meaning given for Z or represents OH, O-PG, SH, S-PG, or represents an aldehyde, cyano, carboxyl or (C_1-C_4)-alkoxycarbonyl group,

if appropriate in the presence of inert ~~solvents~~ solvent and ~~catalysts~~ a catalyst, to give ~~compounds~~ a compound of the formula (I).